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Press Release

September 15, 2011

### EUROPEAN HERITAGE DAYS

### OPENING TO THE PUBLIC OF THE HOTEL TALLEYRAND IN PARIS

The Embassy of the United States of America will participate for the first time in European Heritage Days, by opening the Hotel Talleyrand in Paris, including several salons and ante-chambers which were significantly restored between 2000 and 2010, to the public. The Hotel will be open Sunday, September 18th between 10:00 a.m. and 5 p.m. Access is from 2 rue Saint Florentin, Paris 1<sup>er</sup> (Métro Concorde), and entry is free.

The neoclassical building known today by the name « Hôtel de Talleyrand » was built between 1767 and 1769 by Louis XV's architects, Ange-Jacques Gabriel et Jean-François Thérèse. After the Second World War, the U.S. Department of State purchased the Hotel Talleyrand from the Rothschild family, to serve as the Marshall Plan's administrative headquarters during the Plan's economic reconstruction of Europe (1947-1952). Ambassador W. Averell Harriman, the American President's representative and head of the American Administration for the Marshall Plan, assembled negotiators from 17 European countries at the Hotel.

Visitors to the Hotel Talleyrand will walk in the footsteps of emperors, kings, political leaders, and ambassadors from around the world who have contributed to many historical events. Today the Hotel Talleyrand houses the George C. Marshall Center, where three rooms evoke the work and commitment of Europeans and Americans to guaranteeing the Marshall Plan's success. The Hotel Talleyrand entered a new era in its international and cultural history when it was registered as a Historical Monument on February 12, 1925.

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